Founder's Day

March 14, 2012
Founder’s Day

March 14, 2012
Program

MASTER OF CEREMONIES
Robert M. Hardy, M.A.
Vice President for Human Resources

TRIBUTE TO FACULTY AND STAFF
"And All That Jazz" from Chicago
Arr. Mac Huff
Sung by 4 Heart Harmony

CONGRATULATORY REMARKS
John J. Petillo, Ph.D.
President

HONORING OF SERVICE AWARD RECIPIENTS
Robert M. Hardy, M.A.

MUSICAL INTERLUDES
"Everything's Coming Up Roses" from Gypsy
Arr. R. Robinson
Sung by 4 Heart Harmony

"At Last"
Jacqueline Delgado '12
Mack Gordon/Harry Warren

CLOSING PRAYER
Rev. Gerald Ryle
Director of Campus Ministry

ALMA MATER

Music
John Michniewicz, D.M.A.
Director of Choral Programs
Galen Tate, M.M.
Assistant Director of Choral Programs
Faculty and Staff Award Recipients

40 Years
Alvin T. Clinkscales, M.A.
Special Assistant to the
Executive Director of SEA
Student Financial Assistance

35 Years
Barbara A. Benjamini, M.A.
Adjunct Associate Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences

30 Years
Seymour C. Hirsch, M.B.A.
Adjunct Assistant Professor
of Computer Science
College of Arts & Sciences

Rose Marie B. Kinik, M.A.
Professor Emerita and Adjunct Assistant Professor
of Mathematics
College of Arts & Sciences

Gary L. Rose, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairperson,
Department of Government and Politics
College of Arts & Sciences

Sylvia A. Watts, Ed.D.
Adjunct Associate Professor of English
College of Arts & Sciences

25 Years
Anne M. Barker, Ed.D., R.N.
Professor and Chairperson,
Department of Nursing
College of Health Professions

John S. deGraffenried, M.F.A.
Associate Professor of Art & Design
College of Arts & Sciences

Sophia J. Gevas, B.F.A.
Director, Gallery of Contemporary Art
Marketing and Communications

Lauren J. Kempton, Ed.D.
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Education
Isabelle Farrington College of Education

Jacqueline J. Norcel, M.S.
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Education
Isabelle Farrington College of Education

20 Years
Beverly A. Boehmke, B.A.
Administrative Assistant I
Jandrisevits Learning Center

Lisa A. Boland, B.S.
Director, Financial Planning
and Operations
Business Office

Cheryl Criegmuss Carlson
Administrative Secretary
Counseling Center

Karen T. Cascini, Ph.D.
Professor and Chairperson, Department
of Accounting and Information Systems
John F. Welch College of Business

Kon Swee Chen, Ph.D.
Adjunct Associate Professor of Chemistry
College of Arts & Sciences

Alexander J. Fekete, Jr., Ph.D.
Adjunct Assistant Professor of Chemistry
College of Arts & Sciences

Claire A. Marrone, Ph.D.
Professor of Foreign Languages
College of Arts & Sciences

Linda L. Strong, Ed.D., R.N.
Assistant Professor of Nursing
College of Health Professions

15 Years
Joseph S. Beleznay, A.A.
Registrar Assistant II
Registrar's Office

Donna M. Bowers, M.P.H.
Clinical Assistant Professor
of Physical Therapy
College of Health Professions

Benoit N. Boyer, Ph.D.
Professor of Accounting
John F. Welch College of Business

Stephen M. Brown, Ed.D.
Professor of Management
John F. Welch College of Business

Antoinette P. Bruciati, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Education
Coordinator for Educational Technology
Isabelle Farrington College of Education
Faculty and Staff Award Recipients

Patricia H. Carl-Stannard, M.S.W.
Clinical Assistant Professor of Social Work/
Field Education Coordinator
College of Arts & Sciences

Janet L. Castic, A.S.
Assistant to Vice President for Strategic
Planning and Administration
Campus Operations Construction

Maureen A. Conard, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Psychology
College of Arts & Sciences

Christopher Contos, C.A.S.
Adjunct Instructor of Education
Isabelle Farrington College of Education

Lucy P. Cox, B.S.
Senior Associate Athletic Director
Director of Student-Athlete Services
Athletics

Debbie A. Danowski, Ph.D.
Associate Professor of Communication and
Media Studies
College of Arts & Sciences

Nance E. Donato
Executive Secretary
Registrar's Office

David B. Erwin, M.S.
Adjunct Instructor of Education
Isabelle Farrington College of Education

Deanna Fiorentino, B.A.
Executive Director, Student Affairs
Research and Special Projects
Student Affairs and Athletics

Virginia A. Gardner, A.S.
Director, Information Services
University Advancement

Ruth M. Grant, Ph.D.
Visiting Assistant Professor of Psychology
College of Arts & Sciences

Alexis S. Haakonsen, M.A.
Executive Director, Graduate Admissions

Alice P. Hardison
Custodian - Night
Campus Operations

Alka Jauhari, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Government
and Politics
College of Arts & Sciences

Marian Leal, M.S.
Instructor of Biology
College of Arts & Sciences

Thomas J. Mariano, M.A.T.
Head Coach, Lacrosse
Athletics

Peter T. Marino
HVAC Technician
Campus Operations

Lori M. Miller, B.S.
Corporate Underwriting Director
WSHU

Kenneth S. Mysogland, M.S.W.
Adjunct Instructor of Social Work
College of Arts & Sciences

Gerald E. Neipp, Ed.D.
Assistant Professor of Education
Isabelle Farrington College of Education

Shirley A. Pavone, Ph.D.
Assistant Professor of Psychology
College of Arts & Sciences

Carmen S. Santiago
Custodian
Campus Operations

Vernie J. Taylor, M.A.R.
Adjunct Instructor of Religious Studies
College of Arts & Sciences

Barbara L. Tuck
Custodian
Campus Operations

Robert C. Tullonge, M.B.A.
Director, Academic Computing
Information Technology

Patricia W. Walker, Ed.D.
Dean
College of Health Professions
Joseph S. Beleznay, A.A.

Joe Beleznay's first job at Sacred Heart was alphabetizing books for his aunt in the Center for Christian-Jewish Understanding. Today he is a registrar's assistant. That makes him responsible for room-scheduling for all academics. He also works with the Student Union helping to provide space for student-organized events and meetings. His other major responsibility, he said, is swapping out the Poland Spring water jug when it's empty. He is a Sacred Heart alumnus with an associate's degree and said he is working on his bachelor's degree on the 15-year plan. He finds it hard to believe that 15 years have gone by so quickly and he has great memories of the SHU community and the people. He is hoping that the flying cars of the future will alleviate the parking problems on campus.

Donna M. Bowers, M.P.H.

Donna Bowers, a clinical assistant professor of Physical Therapy, earned her board certification in physical therapy from the American Board of Physical Therapy, her bachelor's degree in physical therapy from Northeastern University and her master's degree in public health from Southern Connecticut State University. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she serves as co-chair for Physical Therapy admissions; University liaison to the RISE Program; facilitator for Faculty Conversations; and coordinator for PT faculty and student involvement in International Service Learning activities (medical mission trips) in Guatemala. On the clinical side, she provides pediatric physical therapy services through the Sacred Heart University Rehabilitation Center and provides consultation and PT services to the Trumbull school system.
Benoît N. Boyer, Ph.D.

Dr. Benoît Boyer initially joined Sacred Heart University as the founding dean of the College of Business. He served as chair of the Accounting and Information Systems Department from 1997 until the fall of 2011. His current responsibilities as professor of Accounting include teaching both undergraduate and graduate classes in classrooms and online. He received his doctorate from UCLA.

Stephen M. Brown, Ed.D.

Dr. Stephen Brown, who received his doctorate of education from Boston University in 1981, began his career at Sacred Heart as dean of University College. Today his role as professor of Management involves teaching management courses to MBA and undergraduate students and coordinating the Integrated Core for the MBA program. In addition, he is director of the Center of Not for Profit Management, a member of the Rank and Tenure Committee and faculty adviser to the Omega Phi Kappa fraternity on campus.

Antoinette P. Bruciati, Ph.D.

Dr. Antoinette Bruciati, associate professor of Education and coordinator for Educational Technology, earned her doctorate of philosophy in computing technology in education from Nova Southeastern University, Graduate School of Computer Science, in Fort Lauderdale. Through her role as coordinator for Educational Technology, she is responsible for the development, assessment and continuous improvement of the Educational Technology Certificate Program. She is recognized as a pioneer in online instruction as she developed her first online course in 1998. She has more than 25 years of experience teaching pre-K through grade 12 and holds an active research agenda in the areas of STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) education. She has served on the Faculty Compensation and Academic Affairs Committee among others and also works as an education consultant to such clients as NASA and Optimus Healthcare. In 2007, she was recognized by the Connecticut Technology Council as one of the top state Women of Innovation and received a letter of commendation from former Governor M. Jodi Rell.
Patricia H. Carl-Stannard, M.S.W.
Patricia Carl-Stannard, who received her master’s degree in social work from Ohio State University, is a clinical assistant professor of Social Work and field education coordinator. Her responsibilities include teaching clinical courses and coordinating student field placements; conducting student field placement orientation meetings and field instructor orientations; conducting site visits to agencies to recruit and to proctor students in field placement and participating in the Social Work Program Reaffirmation Study. She also plans to take students to Ireland in May, and she owns and maintains a private psychotherapy practice.

Janet L. Cascio, A.S.
Janet Cascio, an alumnus of Sacred Heart with an associate’s degree, joined Sacred Heart as assistant to the director of Facilities Management and Construction. Her current role is assistant to the vice president for Strategic Planning and Administration. In that role, she has been part of the team responsible for the annual University construction projects as well as major capital projects, such as the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, Roncalli Hall, Christian Witness Commons, the Chapel of the Holy Spirit and, most recently, the new Linda E. McMahon Commons. She is also responsible for nonacademic program reviews. She is known for keeping calm under pressure and maintaining a positive problem-solving attitude when orchestrating the University’s construction-related office moves. She has served on the Founder’s Day committee, participates in the Read-Aloud program and is frequently seen at the Pitt Center supporting the men’s and women’s basketball teams.

Maureen A. Conard, Ph.D.
Maureen Conard, an associate professor of Psychology, earned her doctorate from the University of Connecticut. In addition to teaching both undergraduate and graduate courses, she has served on the Academic Governance Committee; served on the University Academic Assembly since its inception, including terms as vice president, president and past president; developed the Industrial and Organizational Psychology concentrations for the master’s program in applied psychology and published multiple articles in peer-reviewed psychology and business journals.
Christopher Contos, C.A.S.
In addition to his role as adjunct instructor of Education, Christopher Contos is currently a school counselor at Montville High School in Oakdale. Before that, he was an English teacher in the Norwich Public Schools. He implemented the first elementary counseling program in Norwich and served as a counselor for three years. At Sacred Heart, he teaches Human Development – Adolescent to Adult and Role of the Teacher. He also lectures with Dr. Karen Christensen in her Child Abuse class. He specializes in using topical research, counseling theory and development guidance to help teachers forge mutually respectful relationships with students of all ages.

Lucy P. Cox, B.S.
Lucy Cox first came to Sacred Heart as a career development coordinator. Today she is senior associate athletic director/director of Student-Athlete Services. She is responsible for providing academic and wellness support to all student-athletes, administering the NCAA Champs Life Skills Program, coordinating the Dunbar School initiative and serving on the Student-Athlete Advisory Committee and the Heart Attack Fan Spirit Group. She earned her bachelor's degree at Sacred Heart University where she received the medal of excellence from University College for having the highest grade point average. She is currently pursuing a master of arts in communication here at SHU.

Debbie A. Danowski, Ph.D.
Dr. Debbie Danowski came to Sacred Heart as a student and then became an adjunct instructor in English. Today she is an associate professor of Communication and Media Studies. In addition to her teaching duties, she serves as a member of the Eating Disorders Awareness Task Force and the IDEAL Committee, chair of the task force for faculty and student relationships and a member of the Rank and Tenure Committee. She is a former adviser to the Spectrum and was the founding adviser of Pioneer magazine. The author of four books, she earned her doctorate in media education from Capella University.
David B. Erwin, M.S.
David Erwin's original role at Sacred Heart was adjunct instructor in the student teaching seminar at the Lisbon campus. These days, he is an adjunct instructor of Education at the Oakview and Griswold campuses. He teaches an education seminar class, a multiple intelligences class, Educational Law and Finance and Educational Leadership. He is also serving as a practicum advisor in the Educational Leadership program and assisted with the NCATE accreditation visit. He earned his bachelor's degree from the University of Connecticut and his master's from Southern Connecticut State University. He is doing post graduate work in educational leadership at the University of Connecticut.

Deanna Fiorentino, B.A.
Deanna Fiorentino, executive director of Student Affairs Research and Special Projects, earned her bachelor's degree in economics from Boston University. In her role, she is responsible for oversight of the Career Development Office, including significant expansion of service to students and increased recruitment activities. She led the team that established SHU's Ireland campus and the program there. After recently working on enrollment communications and research, she is now focused on retention initiatives and special projects with the Division of Student Affairs and Athletics.

Virginia A. Gardner, A.S.
Virginia Gardner first joined the University as a temporary administrative assistant for Planned Giving. Currently, as director of Information Services, she is responsible for providing vital information and support services to the Office of University Advancement. She oversees the day-to-day management of all aspects of the development and alumni database, including the input of proper gift/pledge recording and acknowledgement in keeping with IRS requirements, accounting standards and CASE Management Reporting Standards. She maintains quality and accuracy of alumni- and development-related information and provides financial and ad hoc reporting while serving as the liaison between UA and Finance/IT. She earned her associate's degree in accounting from Norwalk Community College.
Ruth M. Grant, Ph.D.
Dr. Ruth Grant, a visiting assistant professor of Psychology, has a doctorate from Columbia University. One highlight of her career at Sacred Heart is the development of the Academic Incentive Program (AIP) in Psychology. In a coordinated effort with other departments, she developed and implemented strategies and interventions designed to improve the learning outcomes for the population. For the past several years, she and Dr. Dawn Melzer have collected data about the needs and personality dynamics of the AIP group. The intent was to improve retention and academic performance. They presented the results at sessions at the American Psychological Society and the New England Psychological Association meetings. Their research will culminate in a handbook of strategies and study methods for use in introductory psychology.

Alexis S. Haakonsen, M.A.
Alexis Haakonsen originally joined the University as a graduate admissions counselor. These days, she is the executive director of Graduate Admissions. In that role, she oversees the recruitment and enrollment of new students to the 15 graduate programs here. Her job is made easier by the wonderful staff she works with in Graduate Admissions and in each of the graduate program departments. She earned her bachelor's degree from the College of Wooster and her master's from Sacred Heart University.

Alice P. Hardison
Alice Hardison is a night custodian at Sacred Heart University. She works to provide a safe and clean environment for all students, faculty, staff and visitors.
Alka Jauhari, Ph.D.
Dr. Alka Jauhari, who received her doctorate from Lucknow University in India, is an assistant professor of Government and Politics at Sacred Heart. She teaches courses related to international politics, advises the Politics and International Studies Club and publishes articles in peer-reviewed journals.

Marian Leal, M.S.
Marian Leal is an instructor of Biology. She is responsible for overseeing all aspects of anatomy and physiology offered to allied health majors. In addition to teaching, she develops and coordinates curriculum for student and trains new faculty. Now that demand for these courses is increasing, she is involved in growth planning for the department. She earned her master's degree from St. John's University School of Pharmacy and Allied Health.

Thomas J. Mariano, M.A.T.
Thomas Mariano is the head men's lacrosse coach, which means he has day-to-day responsibility for running SHU's Division I lacrosse program. That includes coaching, recruiting, fundraising and alumni relations. He received his bachelor's degree from Nazareth College and his master's from Sacred Heart University.
Peter T. Marino

Peter Marino is an HVAC technician for the University. In that role, he is responsible for maintaining, repairing and replacing air conditioning equipment and hot water, condenser and chilled water systems, including pumps, control valves, heat exchangers, cooling towers and related controls. In addition, he operates energy management or building automation systems that control heating and cooling systems. He also responds to after-hours emergency calls and trains helpers when needed.

Lori M. Miller, B.S.

In her role as corporate underwriting director for WSHU, Lori Miller is responsible for raising corporate and non-profit dollars for WSHU Public Radio. As a result, she has been responsible for the growth and overall success of the radio station. She earned her bachelor’s degree in advertising, with a minor in art, from the University of Florida.

Kenneth S. Mysogland, M.S.W.

Kenneth Mysogland joined Sacred Heart as a field instructor for undergraduate students. These days, he is adjunct instructor of Social Work. That means he teaches Perspectives on Family Violence to undergraduate students. He previously taught Introduction to Social Work. He is a member of the Social Work Advisory Council and assisted on the search committee to recommend full-time faculty candidates for the Department of Social Work. He is often asked to give presentations on campus on such topics as domestic violence, dating violence and the neglect and sexual abuse of children. Last year, he had the honor of presenting his daughter, Emily, with her SHU diploma as she graduated with honors from the undergraduate Psychology program.
Gerald E. Neipp, Ed.D.
Assistant professor of Education Dr. Gerry Neipp received his bachelor's degree from Boston University and his master's from Central Connecticut State University, an Advanced Graduate Study Certificate from Southern Connecticut State University and his doctorate of Education from Nova Southeastern University. He has done post-doctoral work at Harvard University, specializing in school law. His teaching experience includes 13 years as an urban high school and middle school science teacher, special education teacher and guidance counselor. He also has 22 years of experience as a special education administrator and director of pupil services. He has taught at several other universities in addition to Sacred Heart and has extensive experience in the field of classroom management, alternative education and school law. He has presented at state and national conferences and is the author of a book, Competence, Confidence, Execution: The Key to Good Classroom Management, One Small Step at a Time.

Shirley A. Pavone, Ph.D.
Dr. Shirley Pavone earned her doctorate in interdisciplinary studies from Union Institute and University of Cincinnati in Ohio. In addition to the teaching responsibilities that come with her role as assistant professor of Psychology, she is also faculty adviser for SHU’s Habitat for Humanity campus chapter. In addition, she is adviser to Community Connections, CURTIS Week and Spring Break Collegiate Challenge. She was a participant adviser on the Mission Matters trips from 2006 to 2008 and has participated in various service learning programs and courses. She received the Dr. Marian Calabrese Outstanding Teaching Award in 2004 and 2011; the Faculty Excellence Award from University College; the Outstanding Greek Adviser Award in 2004-2005 and the dedication in the 2008-2009 student yearbook.

Carmen S. Santiago
Carmen Santiago is a custodian for Sacred Heart. She is responsible for providing a safe and clean environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors in her assigned area.
Vernie J. Taylor, M.A.R.
Vernie Taylor, also known as Butch, is an adjunct instructor of Religious Studies and teaches Introduction to the Study of Religion, Religion in America and God and Rock & Roll. He is also a professional musician, composer and producer and has performed backup guitar for James Ingram, Patti Austin and Deniece Williams, among others. He often performs for charity and has been involved with Band Together since 2009, an organization that has raised more than $850,000 for local charities and families. He earned his associate's degree in general studies from Housatonic Community College, his bachelor's degree in psychology from Sacred Heart University and his master's degree in religion from Yale University.

Barbara Tuck
Barbara Tuck is a custodian for Sacred Heart. She is responsible for providing a safe and clean environment for students, faculty, staff and visitors in her assigned area.

Robert Tullonge, M.B.A.
In his role as director of Academic Computing, Robert Tullonge is responsible for faculty technology support, audio visual and media services support, classroom technology support, Blackboard Academic and Transaction system support and Access control and surveillance support. He is an alumnus of Sacred Heart University with a master's degree in business administration.
Patricia Walker, Ed.D.

Dr. Patricia Walker joined Sacred Heart in the role of founding dean of the College of Education and Health Professions and, with last year's separation of the College of Education, is now the dean of the College of Health Professions. In that role, she provides academic and administrative leadership for the college. She received her doctorate of educational psychology from Loyola University in Chicago.

20 Years

Beverly A. Boehmke, B.A.

Beverly Boehmke, a Sacred Heart alumna with a bachelor's degree in general studies, first joined Sacred Heart University as a floating secretary. Today, as an administrative assistant, she supports the executive director of the Jandrisevits Learning Center. Her responsibilities include supporting students with learning disabilities, attaining and proctoring extended time exams, procuring audio and/or electronic textbooks and updating and archiving student files.

Lisa A. Boland, B.S.

Lisa Boland first came to Sacred Heart in the role of controller. Today, she is director of Financial Planning and Operations, which means she is responsible for the financial statement audit, University budgets, academic cost study and risk management. She also contributed to the development of the Strategic Plan, the New England Association of Schools and Colleges (NEASC) Self-Study Task Force for 2003 (and will participate again for 2013) and the Student Retention Task Force. She has served as the Annual Fund Committee captain and participated in Operation Bridgeport, the Pioneer Open and the STAR student leadership program. She earned her bachelor's degree in accounting from Fairfield University.
Cheryl Criegmuss Carlson
Cheryl Criegmuss Carlson first joined Sacred Heart as a registrar assistant. Today, in the role of administrative secretary, she manages the office at the University's Counseling Center. Her responsibilities include greeting students when they come in or call on the phone; coordinating appointments for the counselors and psychiatrist on staff; ensuring that online forms are filled out correctly and keeping track of follow-up forms. She also maintains the Center's website and works closely with the s.w.e.e.t. peer educator coordinator to schedule outreach projects on campus. She keeps the Counseling Center running smoothly and is the "go to" person whenever there is an administrative issue.

Karen T. Cascini, Ph.D.
Dr. Karen T. Cascini is a professor and chair of the Department of Accounting and Information Systems. Her teaching experience includes classes in International Accounting, Intermediate Accounting, Advance Accounting, Accounting in the European Union, Ethical Issues in Accounting and Financial Accounting. She has lectured and presented findings on international accounting issues at many universities and conferences around the world. She received her doctorate from the University of Connecticut and is a certified public accountant. She is also the author of numerous journal articles on such topics as international accounting and financial accounting issues. In addition, she is an accounting and tax consultant to small businesses and individuals. She is a member of the Connecticut Society of CPAs, the American Accounting Association (AAA), the international section of the AAA, the Clute Institute for Academic Research, the International Accounting Education Association and various community organizations. She has also served as accounting editor for the Journal of Applied Business Research.
Kon Swee Chen, Ph.D.
Dr. Kon Swee Chen, an adjunct associate professor of Chemistry, received his doctorate in chemistry from the University of Kansas. During his 20 years with the University, he has taught a variety of chemistry courses in almost every SHU location.

Alexander J. Fekete, Jr., Ph.D.
Dr. Alexander Fekete, an adjunct assistant professor of Chemistry, earned his doctorate in chemistry at the University of Connecticut in 1967. His role involves teaching general, environmental and organic chemistry and laboratory courses.

Claire A. Marrone, Ph.D.
Dr. Claire Marrone, professor of Foreign Languages and Cultures, earned her doctorate from the University of Pennsylvania. In her role, she coordinates the French and Italian programs and teaches classes for the Department of Foreign Languages and Cultures. She also participates in the Women's Studies Program.
Linda L. Strong, Ed.D., R.N.
Dr. Linda Strong, an assistant professor of Nursing, received her bachelor’s degree in nursing from the University of Bridgeport, her master’s degree in nursing from the Catholic University of America and her doctorate of education from Teachers College at Columbia University. In addition to her teaching responsibilities, she administrates the RN-BSN program and is chair of the RN-BSN/MSN committee. Her responsibilities for the program include curriculum, academic standards, events and celebrations. In addition, she coordinates service learning and community service opportunities for students, including influenza clinics and community-based outreach activities to vulnerable populations. Her volunteer service, for which she recently received several awards, includes Katrina Response and Recovery Delegations in 2005 and 2006; AAC&U Core Commitments and service as chair of the Student Projects Committee from 2007 to 2009; Emergency Preparedness Response Team and Cambridge campus coordinator from 2008 to the present; member of the planning committee for the Center of Urban Policy from 2011 to the present; the Connecticut Association of Public Health Nurses (member of the Board of Directors since 2011); and the Medical Reserve Corps of Stratford from 2006 to the present.

Anne M. Barker, Ed.D., R.N.
Dr. Anne Barker first joined Sacred Heart as director of the Nursing master’s program. Today she is a professor and chair of the Department of Nursing. In that role, she is responsible for providing leadership and growth in the department. Highlights of her career at SHU include pioneering online learning both at Sacred Heart and in the nursing profession; writing four books, three of which address the theory and application of transformation leadership; and serving as an officer of the University Academic Assembly in 2007 and 2008. She received the University’s Teaching Excellence Award in 2000 and the Josephine A. Dolan Award for Outstanding Contributions to Nursing Education in October 2011. This year she was selected to represent the College of Health Professions in the Academic Research Showcase, which is part of the Presidential Inaugural Lecture Series. She received her doctor of education degree from Teacher’s College at Columbia University.
John S. de Graffenried, M.F.A.
An associate professor in the Department of Graphic Design and Visual Arts, Jack de Graffenried is a member of the Society of Illustrators in New York City, and his professional illustration career has spanned 18 years. His client list includes NBC, A&E, Showtime, HBO, Paramount Television, Viacom, IBM, Miller Brewery, John Deere, Burger King, McDonald's, Chase Manhattan Bank, Cambridge University Press and the U.S. Postal Services (Uncover Corporation). He has exhibited in a number of nationally juried exhibitions, including the Maryland Federation of Arts “Go Figure” at the National Gallery of Art in Washington, D.C.; Philadelphia Watercolor Society’s “102nd Anniversary International Exhibition of Works on Paper;” Millennium Arts Center’s “3rd Annual Exhibit” in Washington, D.C.; Society Exhibition, “Illustration West 39,” Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles; The Phoenix Gallery’s “National Juried Competition” in New York City and the “56th Annual Artists of the Northeast” at the Silvermine Gallery in New Canaan, CT. Also, in 2006, “The Art of Jack de Graffenried” solo exhibit took place at the Society of Illustrators in New York City. His students have also exhibited nationally on a consistent basis since 1992. The national juried exhibitions have included the Annual Student Scholarship Competition at the Society of Illustrators in New York and the Society of Illustrators of Los Angeles' Annual Illustration West Competitions in Glendale, CA. Since 2004, his students have shown a total of 41 individual pieces in those two prestigious exhibitions. He received his M.F.A. in visual arts from Vermont College of Norwich University.

Sophia J. Gevas, B.F.A.
Sophia Gevas joined Sacred Heart University in the role of adjunct instructor for the Art Department and now is director of the University's Gallery of Contemporary Art. Highlights of her SHU career include developing the Gallery of Contemporary Art and all its programs, including presenting more than 100 exhibitions – often with a theme to coincide with academic areas of study. She also planned lectures, panel discussions and art talks for classes in all disciplines; planned and executed fundraisers with the assistance of an advisory board and Art Roundtable; developed tours and workshops and supervised occasional CEU events for teachers in conjunction with certain exhibitions. In addition, she developed a public University art collection that includes more than 350 pieces of donated art with an estimated value of $868,000. She recently began a Guide by Cell program that allows visitors to hear artists talk about their works as they view the particular piece. She developed the Percent for Art program, which led to seven sculptures, often with a seating component, in or near the residence halls and the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, and she is responsible for the Art Walk Brochure that can be viewed virtually and downloaded from the Gallery website. She received her bachelor's degree in fine arts from Miami University (Ohio) and has done post-graduate work in art history at George Washington University.
Lauren J. Kempton, Ed.D.

Dr. Lauren Kempton first came to Sacred Heart as a visiting professor of Education. Today, she is an adjunct assistant professor of Education teaching her students about the Holocaust and Jewish Resistance, as well as cultural diversity. The graduate of the University of Hartford with a doctorate in education will publish a young adult book in April, based on a true story of a young survivor of the genocide in Darfur. The title is *Adu: My Grandfather Said Climb a Tree by Day and by Night Run, Run for Light*. Her other major responsibility is teaching her grandson, Cole Patrick Cass, that reading, creativity and dancing to the music of the ’60s are much better alternatives than television, movies and video games.

Jacqueline J. Norcel, M.S.

In addition to celebrating her 25th year at Sacred Heart, Jacqueline Norcel, adjunct assistant professor of Education, is celebrating her 50th year in education. She has taught elementary school in New York City and Trumbull and has been the principal of several elementary schools. Highlights of her career include winning the Connecticut Association of Schools (CAS) Elementary School of the Year award in 2005, the CAS Climate Award, the Phi Delta Kappa Distinguished Educator’s Award and the U.S. Department of Education National School of Excellence award. She also served as District I zone director for the National Association of Elementary School Principals. She earned her bachelor’s degree from Fordham University, her master’s degree from Brooklyn College and her 6th Year Certificate of Advanced Study from Southern Connecticut State University. In her personal life, she volunteers as a Eucharistic minister, lector and parish trustee for St. Stephen’s Church in Trumbull.
Seymour C. Hirsch, M.B.A.

An alumnus of Sacred Heart University where he received his bachelor's degree in accounting and his master's degree in business administration, Sy Hirsch begins every day with a rigorous workout before heading to the University to fulfill his role as adjunct assistant professor of Computer Science. In that role, he shares his longtime experience as an executive with General Electric – weaving it into his academic curriculum. He also helped to develop the University’s Introduction to Information Technology course. In addition, he is a diehard fan of SHU’s men’s basketball team and has spent time tutoring student-athletes for more than 15 years. A regular at the William H. Pitt Health and Recreation Center, he is a valued adviser to the Athletic Department.

Rose Marie B. Kinik, M.A.

Rose Marie Kinik, professor emerita and adjunct assistant professor of Mathematics, earned her master's degree in mathematics from St. John's University. Highlights of her career at Sacred Heart include serving as chair of the Mathematics Department from 1997 to 2010 and as a full-time assistant professor from July 1992 to June 2010. She also served as coordinator of the Math/Science Learning Center from 1992 to 2010 and discipline coordinator for Mathematics from 1994-1997. She has been director of the Math Placement Exam since September 1989. In addition, she has served on various University committees, including the Senate, the University Academic Assembly and search and curriculum committees. She was the inaugural recipient of the Joseph Grau “Action for Justice” Award in 1993. The award recognizes outstanding service by full-time faculty and staff for developing and nurturing the University as an academic community whose members are inspired and encouraged to live their faith in action for justice and in solidarity with the poor.
Gary L. Rose, Ph.D.

Dr. Gary Rose, who first joined Sacred Heart University as an assistant professor of Political Science, now holds the title of professor and chair of the Department of Government and Politics. His many accomplishments include his selection as 2011 Professor of the Year by The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching and the Council for Advancement and Support of Education (CASE). He was chosen from nearly 300 top professors in the United States. His responsibilities include teaching a variety of courses; researching, writing and publishing books for the college classroom; administering and leading his department; providing political analysis for local, state and national media; coordinating the freshman seminar program and delivering guest lectures to civic organizations in surrounding communities. He received his doctorate in political science from Miami University (Ohio) and is the author of 10 books.

Sylvia A. Watts, Ed.D.

Dr. Sylvia Watts, who earned her doctor of education degree from Teachers College at Columbia University, is an adjunct associate professor of English. Highlights of her SHU career include serving as director of the Academic Incentive Program from 1991 to 2004 and adviser of the Basic Studies Program and Academic Incentive Program for the past 30 years. She is a member of the New York College Learning Skills Association; the National Council of Teachers of English; Kappa Delta Pi, educational honor society; and Teachers College, Columbia University.
Barbara A. Benjamini, M.A.
An adjunct associate professor of English, Barbara Benjamini earned both her bachelor's and master's degrees in English literature from the University of Bridgeport. She is currently teaching Literary Expression of the Human Journey in the Core Curriculum, both online and in the classroom. She even teaches the class to cohort sections of the Nursing program at area hospitals and is often invited to speak at SHU Blackboard training sessions. During her 35 years at SHU, she has taught both traditional undergraduate courses and courses for the AHEAD program. She has served as co-director of freshman English, been a member of the Admissions Committee and written materials for the Jandrisevits Learning Center. “Above all, I have considered it a privilege to contribute to the extraordinary growth of Sacred Heart University and its role in preserving the Catholic intellectual tradition,” she said.

Alvin T. Clinkscales, M.A.
Alvin Clinkscales first joined the University as director of Financial Aid & assistant vice president for Community/Minority Affairs. In his current role of special assistant to the executive director of University Financial Assistance, he reviews, highlights and maintains articles on higher education costs, enrollment and business services. His research, interpretation and discussion of topics and trends related to the critical areas of concern have helped mold the financial services offered to students, his supervisor says. He assists with the Financial Assistance Office's goal of providing friendly, prompt and accurate customer service. With the ever-increasing requests by phone or from students stopping by the office, his ability to work across all populations has provided students with a more immediate response to their concerns. In addition, he provides much-needed support not only in financial areas for scholarship athletes, but also as a mentor for personal and athletic concerns as they balance their roles as student and athlete. He earned his bachelor's and master's degrees from the University of Bridgeport.
Alma Mater

1. Hail to thee, our Alma Mater, Pioneers are we.
2. Alma Mater, grant us wisdom, Heart and mind renew.

1. Sacred Heart's proud sons and daughters Stand in unity.
2. Love and Truth, her guiding vision. Hail to SHU.

CHORUS

Swell the chorus, praise her glory, On our fields and in these halls.

Loyal hearts proclaim her story, Red and White o'er all.

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